1977—A year of drought, floods, change

The drought year of 1977 ended on a note of irony. Following an unusually severe pre-Thanksgiving snow storm, a rapid rise in temperature caused the Warm Springs River and Shitike Creek to go on the rampage.

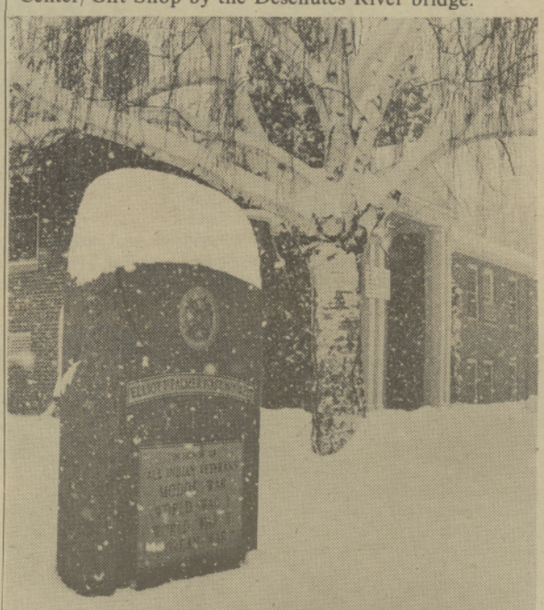
Since Greensville lies in the Shitike floodplain, and the housing clearance project there had begun that Fall, it was as if the elements were hurrying things along. The raging Warm Springs River wiped out the Kah-Nee-Ta footbridge as well as one on the golf course.

Housing projects and a new water system were also highlights in 1977. Work began on the first tribally-funded Tenino apartment complex and homes for purchase by tribal members started to spring up at Greeley Heights.

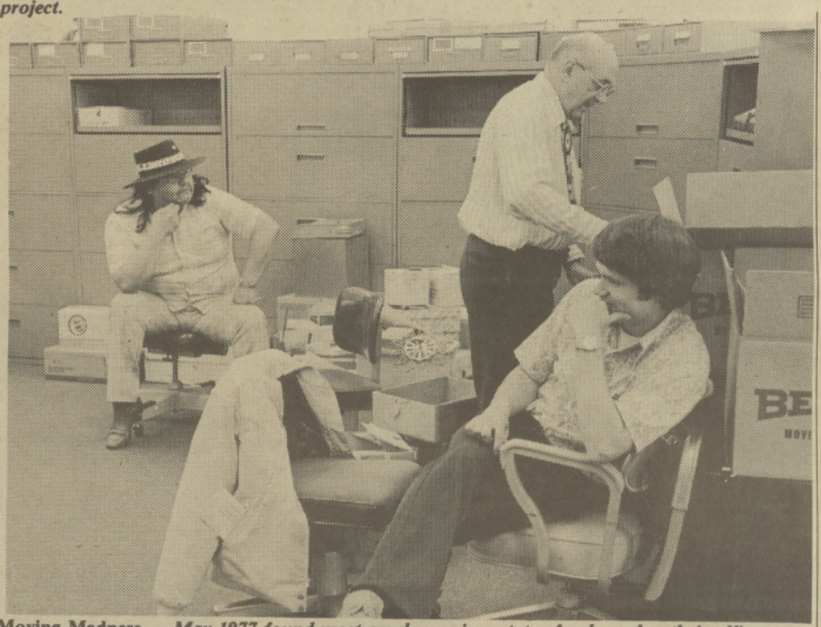
Work began on a sorely needed water system for the Simnasho/Schoolie Flat area. People had been hauling water for domestic use in those areas. Since there was no water at Simnasho School for a two-month period, students had to be bussed down to Warm Springs Elementary.

The completion of a modern administrative building provided colorful new offices and more open space for tribal and BIA employees. The Tribes also added a new enterprise with the opening of the Information Center/Gift Shop by the Deschutes River bridge.

Sinking Home — *Josie and Julia Wolfe's house was tilted into the swollen Shitike Creek during December of '77. This incident of high water dramatized the rationale for the Greensville clearance project.*



Christmas at Thanksgiving? — *Warm Springs received 18 inches of snow in two days shortly before Thanksgiving. School was cancelled and employees were let out two hours early to begin their snowy trek home.*



Moving Madness — *May 1977 found most employees in a state of upheaval as their offices were moved into the new administration building.*

Triumphant Buffs — *The Madras Girls White Buffaloes went to the 1977 State playoffs and came home state champs. The 12-girl team (7 of whom were from Warm Springs) boasted a 22-1 record that year.*

Miss Warm Springs 1977 — *Aurolyn Stwyer.*